

What is claimed is
CLAIMS

1. Rinse agents for machine dishwashing containing alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters corresponding to formula (I):



10 in which R¹CO is an aliphatic acyl group, AlkO stands for CH₂CH₂O, CHCH₃CH₂O and/or CH₂CHCH₃O, n is a number of 1 to 20 and R² is an aliphatic alkyl group.

15 2. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that they contain alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters corresponding to formula (I) in which R¹CO is an aliphatic acyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms, AlkO stands for a CH₂CH₂O group, n has an average value of 5 to 15 and R² is a methy group.

20 3. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that they contain alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters corresponding to formula (I) which have been produced by reaction of carboxylic acids with alkylene oxides in the presence of calcined hydrotalcite.

4. Rinse aids as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters are present in quantities of 0.5 to 40% by weight.

25 5. Rinse agents as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters are present in admixture with other nonionic surfactants selected in particular from the group of fatty alcohol polyglycol ethers, alkyl oligoglucosides, fatty acid-N-alkyl glucamides, hydroxy mixed ethers and/or mixed ethers.

30 6. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters are present in admixture with alkyl polyglycosides corresponding to formula (II):



in which R^3 is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and p is a number of 1 to 10.

7. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that alkoxylated carboxylic acid esters are present in admixture with fatty acid-N-alkyl polyhydroxyalkylamides corresponding to formula (III):



where R^5CO is an aliphatic acyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms, R^4 is an alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms and [Z] is a linear or branched polyhydroxyalkyl group containing 3 to 12 carbon atoms and 3 to 10 hydroxyl groups.

8. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that alkoxylated carboxylic acid esters are present in admixture with fatty alcohol polyethylene glycol/polypropylene or polybutylene glycol ethers corresponding to formula (V):



in which R^6 is an alkyl and/or alkylene group containing 8 to 22 carbon atoms, MO is a propylene oxide and/or a butylene oxide unit, p is a number of 1 to 15 and m is 0 or a number of 1 to 10.

9. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that alkoxylated carboxylic acid esters are present in admixture with fatty alcohol polypropylene glycol/polyethylene glycol ethers corresponding to formula

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(VI):



5 in which R^7 is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 8 to 22 carbon atoms, r is a number of 1 to 10 and q is a number of 0 to 15.

10. Rinse agents as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters are present in admixture with hydroxy mixed ethers corresponding to formula (VII):

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15 in which R^8 is an alkyl and/or alkylene group containing 4 to 18 carbon atoms, R^9 is hydrogen or a methyl or ethyl group, R^{10} is an alkyl group containing 2 to 22 carbon atoms, x is 0 or a number of 1 to 10, y is a number of 1 to 30 and z is the number 1.

11. Rinse agents as claimed in any of claims 5 to 10, characterized in that the alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters and the other nonionic surfactants are present in a ratio by weight of 10:90 to 80:20.

20 12. Rinse agents as claimed in any of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that they contain mono- and/or polybasic carboxylic acids, preferably citric acid, in quantities of 1 to 50% by weight.

25 13. The use of alkoxyated carboxylic acid esters corresponding to formula (I) as a surfactant for the production of rinse agents for machine dishwashing.

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